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PTO/SB/30 (09-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031

Approved for use through September 30, 2008. GPO:2007-100  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Request  
for  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/473,323
<i>Filing Date</i>	December 28, 1999
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Ramesh Maini
<i>Art Unit</i>	3673
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Frederick Lyndon Lagman
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	35002813.000016

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

This is a request for a continuation of examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114. The RCE practice does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a.  Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

ii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Enclosed

i.  Amendment/Reply      iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii.  Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)      iv.  Other      1) Return Postcard  
2) Petition for Extension of Time  
3) Interview Summary

2. **Miscellaneous**

Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a

a.  period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

a.  Deposit Account No. 13-0480 (Deficiencies only)

i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Check in the amount of \$ 946.00 enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Richard V. Wells	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	53.757
Signature		Date	8/20/04

Certificate of Express Mailing - Express Mail No. EV 183594789 US

I hereby certify that the papers enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail post Office to Addressee" under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated below and addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name (Print/Type)	Angela L. Young	Signature	Angela Young	Date	8/20/04
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.14. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

08/24/2004 SSITHIB1 00000104 09473323

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ramesh Maini et al.

Title: Taut Mooring System For Jack-Up Type Mobile Offshore Platform

Application No.: 09/473,323 Filed: December 28, 1999

Examiner: Frederick Lyndon Lagman Group Art Unit: 3673

Atty. Docket No.: 35002813.000016

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**ACCOMPANYING AMENDMENT**

**I. Introductory Comments**

The present paper is being submitted along with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant requests that the present paper be considered a submission for RCE purposes. The present paper includes amendments and remarks responsive to the Final Office Action mailed February 24, 2004 and the telephonic interview of August 18, 2004. A complete written statement describing the substance of the telephonic interview as required under 37 CFR 1.133(b) accompanies this amendment. The Examiner's time and comments provided during the telephonic interview are greatly appreciated.

A check is enclosed in payment of fees required for the Request for Continued Examination, a 3-month extension of time, and additional claims.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.